MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP Success Stories from the Field

Compass Components

New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Value Stream Map a Success at Compass Components, Inc.

Client Profile:

Compass Components, Inc. produces a variety of cables, harnesses, and electro-mechanical assemblies, ranging from simple discrete wire to the very complex wired panel assemblies. The Deming, New Mexico facility employs 42 people.

Situation:

Compass Components wanted to take advantage of Lean Manufacturing principles to increase their productivity and profitability. They contacted the New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership (New Mexico MEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

Solution:

New Mexico MEP conducted a three-day Value Stream Mapping (VSM) event with key Compass Components personnel. The group created the Value Stream Map (VSM) of the current production process for their transmission harness products. A future VSM was created incorporating the necessary elements to reduce non-value added activities. From the VSM process, Compass Components decided to rearrange the layout of their factory which led to the reduction in productions steps from 51 to 29.

Results:

- * Realized \$10,000 in cost savings.
- * Increased productivity by 82 percent.

Testimonial:

"New Mexico MEP helped us tremendously. By facilitating the Value Stream Mapping event, they provided us with a practical plan to eliminate activities that were adding no value to our product. Thank you, New Mexico MEP!"

Jo Anne Shelby, Plant Manager

